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Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Anna **Sotaniemi** (Finland)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly pursuant to Assembly resolution 58/78 of 9 December 2003.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2004, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 26th meeting, on 17 November 2004. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.6/59/SR. 26).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.[1]

5. At the 26th meeting, on 17 November, the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country introduced the report of that Committee (see A/C.6/59/SR.26).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/59/L.15

6. At the 26th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Cyprus, on behalf of Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire and Cyprus, introduced a draft

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/59/26).

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resolution entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country" (A/C.6/59/L.15).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/59/L.15 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

8. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[1]

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[2] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[3] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 26 of its report;[1]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which is an issue of great importance, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, and requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions;

3. *Notes* that the Committee conducted an initial detailed review of the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles,[4] as recommended by the Legal Counsel in his opinion on 24 September 2002,[5] with a view to addressing the problems experienced by some permanent missions during the first year of the Programme and continuously ensuring its proper implementation in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law, and that it shall remain seized of the matter;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/59/26).
[2] Resolution 22 A (I).
[3] See resolution 169 (II).
[4] A/AC.154/355, annex.
[5] A/AC.154/358, annex.

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

5. *Notes* that during the reporting period some travel restrictions previously imposed by the host country on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities were removed, and requests the host country to consider removing the remaining travel restrictions, and in this regard notes the positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

6. *Notes also* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance, in a timely manner, of entry visas to representatives of Member States, pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,[3] inter alia, for the purpose of their attending official United Nations meetings;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

8. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI);

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".